

Mountain View Public Library - Book Club in a Bag
Customer FAQ

Q. What is *Book Club in a Bag*?

A. Book Club in a Bag allows Mountain View Public Library card holders to reserve and check out kits with 10 copies of a popular book to host their own book clubs. Each kit comes with discussion questions, tips for running your own book club, and more information to take the guess work out of hosting a book club. Just one library card is needed to check out a ***Book Club in a Bag*** kit, you just need to provide the people and the place to meet!

Q. How does the *Book Club in a Bag* work?

A. Select one of our ***Book Club in a Bag*** titles. One of your members checks out the kit using their Mountain View Public Library card and distributes the books to the group. After everyone has read the book, use the materials provided with the kit for the book discussion. When finished with the books, return the complete kit to the Customer Service Desk.

Q. What is included in a *Book Club in a Bag* kit?

A. The ***Book Club in a Bag*** includes 10 copies of a book and a Discussion Guide. The Discussion Guide includes:

- A sign-out sheet so that the person in charge of the kit can sign out copies to book club members
- Tips on running a book club
- Book Summary & Author Information
- Possible pairing suggestions to enhance your book club meeting
- Discussion questions
- Read-alike suggestions

Q. Can I place a hold for a *Book Club in a Bag* kit?

A. Bags may be requested and picked up at the Mountain View Public Library Customer Service Desk. You may request them in person, by phone, or online. Unfortunately, they cannot be requested for a particular date.

Q. How long may I keep the *Book Club in a Bag* kit?

A. Four weeks.

Q. How do I check out a *Book Club in a Bag* kit?

A. Come to the Customer Service Desk on the first floor and let them know what title you want to check out.

Q. Can I renew my *Book Club in a Bag* kit?

A. Yes. You may renew the kit for another four weeks through the Mountain View Public Library catalog or by calling our phone renewal system at **650 940-1015**.

Q. What is the overdue charge if I don't return my *Book Club in a Bag* on time?

A. An overdue fine of 25 cents per day will be charged if the kit is returned late.

Q. How do I return a *Book Club in a Bag* kit?

A. Please check to be sure all 10 copies of the book are in the bag, as well as the other materials. (You may keep the sign-out sheet with your member names). If copies of the book, other materials, or the zipper bag are missing, the person who checked out the bag will be billed for the replacement cost of the missing items.

Q. Can I drop a *Book Club in a Bag* kit in the book return?

A. No. Please do not put the bags in book return slots; they should be returned to the Customer Service Desk.

Q. What if a group member loses their copy of the book?

A. The person who checked out the *Book Club in a Bag* kit will be held responsible for the missing book. A \$15 replacement fee for each missing book will be charged to their library account.

Q. What if I lose the entire *Book Club in a Bag* kit?

A. The person who checked out the *Book Club in a Bag* kit will be held responsible for the whole missing kit. A \$150 replacement fee will be charged to their library account.

Q. What if I want a title that is not available?

A. It is a good idea to decide on alternate title choices in case your first choice is taken. If your group prefers to wait for a specific title that is checked out, a hold request may be placed through the Mountain View Public Library catalog.

Q. I have a *Book Club in a Bag* kit checked out already and I want to bring a new kit to my next book club meeting, can I check out two *Book Club in a Bag* kits at once?

A. No, there is a checkout limit of one *Book Club in a Bag* kit per library card. We suggest another book club member check out a kit on their library card if your book club wants two kits at the same time.

Q. I know we are limited to checking out one kit at a time, but what if I want to swap out titles at my next book club meeting?

A. Someone else in your book club will have to check out the next book club kit.

Q. Can I request that a *Book Club in a Bag* title be purchased?

A. Yes. Fill out the **Suggest a Library Purchase** form on the Mountain View Public Library website, and specify that you would like the title to be considered for a ***Book Club in a Bag***.

Q. One of my group members forgot to return their book, who is responsible?

A. The person who borrows the bag is completely responsible for the return of the bag and all of its contents.

Q. I can't remember what was in my bag when I got it, how do I know what to check for before returning it?

- A. Each bag contains 10 copies of the title and the following:
- A sign-out sheet so that the person in charge of the kit can sign out copies to book club members (this does not have to be returned since it has member names)
 - Tips on running a book club
 - Book Summary & Author Information
 - Possible pairing suggestions to enhance your book club meeting
 - Discussion questions
 - Read-alike suggestions

Q. Can my group members return their own books to the library?

A. No, the ***Book Club in a Bag*** must be returned with all copies of the book at the same time.

Q. What if my group has more than 10 members?

A. Use the Mountain View Public Library catalog to request additional copies of a title as needed.

Q. Someone in my group prefers large print books, how can I help them?

A. Use the Mountain View Public Library catalog to request the title in a different format: large print, book on CD, downloadable audiobooks or eBooks.

Q. Where can I get other ideas for books to read with my book club?

A. Librarians on the 2nd floor are a great resource for this, check with them! Also, [NoveList](#) is a reading recommendations website you can log into with your library card information to find book suggestions. You can find a link to NoveList under the [eBooks, ELearning & Research page](#) of the Mountain View Public Library website.

Q. Does the library have space for my book club group to meet?

A. No. The ***Book Club in a Bag*** kits are designed to be “grab and go” with everything necessary to run your own book club from your setting of choice. Parks, restaurants, cafes, and living rooms all make excellent settings for book club meetings.